

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 28 and 32 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 4. (Canceled) ✓

5. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a ~~detector~~ receiver that ~~detects, in response to~~ receives an ending instruction from a user for instructing the apparatus to terminate ~~a current operation, that the user is about to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus~~ use of the apparatus by the user;

✱ / a search unit that searches for a pending task to be performed by the user within a predetermined timeframe when said ~~detector detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiver receives the ending instruction from the user; and

a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task to be performed within the predetermined timeframe when the pending task is found by said search unit.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a ~~detector~~ receiver that ~~detects, in response to~~ receives an ending instruction from a user for instructing the apparatus to terminate ~~a current operation, that the user is~~

~~about to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus~~ use of the apparatus by the user;

an inferring unit that infers a destination of a user based on a user's schedule when said ~~detector detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiver receives the ending instruction from the user;

a search unit that searches for a pending task relevant to the inferred destination of the user when said ~~detector detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiver receives the ending instruction from the user; and

a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task relevant to the destination of the user.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

~~a detector that detects, in response to~~ receiver that receives an ending instruction from a user for instructing the apparatus to terminate a ~~current operation, that the user is about to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus~~ use of the apparatus by the user;

an inferring unit that infers a person with whom the user is scheduled to meet based on a user's schedule when said ~~detector detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiver receives the ending instruction from the user;

a search unit that searches for a pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is scheduled to meet when said ~~detector detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiver receives the ending instruction from the user; and

a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is scheduled to meet.

10. to 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising the steps of:

~~a detection step of detecting, in response to~~ receiving step of receiving an ending instruction from a user for instructing an information processing apparatus to terminate a ~~current operation, that the user is about to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus~~ use of the information processing apparatus by the user;

a searching step of searching for a pending task to be performed by the user within a predetermined timeframe when said ~~detecting step detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiving step receives the ending instruction from the user; and

a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task to be performed within the predetermined time when the pending task is found in said searching step.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising the steps of:

a ~~detecting step of detecting, in response to~~ receiving step of receiving an ending instruction from a user for instructing an information processing apparatus to terminate a ~~current operation, that the user is about to depart from being present at use~~ of the information processing apparatus by the user;

an inferring step of inferring a destination of a user based on a user's schedule when said ~~detecting step detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiving step receives the ending instruction from the user;

1. a searching step of searching for a pending task relevant to the inferred destination of the user when said ~~detecting step detects that the user is about to depart~~ receiving step receives the ending instruction from the user; and

a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task relevant to the destination of the user.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising the steps of:

a ~~detecting step of detecting, in response to~~ receiving step of receiving an ending instruction from a user for instructing an information processing apparatus to

terminate a ~~current operation, that the user is about to depart from being present at~~ use of
the information processing apparatus by the user;

an inferring step of inferring a person with whom the user is scheduled to
meet based on a user's schedule when said ~~detecting step detects that the user is about to~~
~~depart~~ receiving step receives the ending instruction from the user;

a searching step of searching for a pending task relevant to the person with
whom the user is scheduled to meet when said ~~detecting step detects that the user is about~~
~~to depart~~ receiving step receives the ending instruction from the user; and

41 a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task relevant to the
person with whom the user is scheduled to meet.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which
stores a program for controlling a computer, the program comprising the steps of:

a ~~detection step of detecting, in response to~~ receiving step of receiving an
ending instruction from a user for instructing an information processing apparatus to
terminate a ~~current operation, that the user is about to depart from being present at~~ use of
the information processing apparatus by the user;

a searching step of searching for a pending task to be performed by the user
within a predetermined timeframe when said ~~detecting step detects that the user is about to~~
~~depart~~ receiving step receives the ending instruction from the user; and

a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task to be performed within the predetermined timeframe when the pending task is found in said searching step.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus,
comprising:

a schedule storage, for storing a plurality of pending tasks;

an entry adder, that adds a new task to said schedule storage;

a search unit that searches said schedule storage for a previously scheduled pending task relevant to the new task when said entry adder adds the new task; and

a notifier that notifies ~~the~~ a user of the pending task relevant to the new task.

24. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said search unit searches a pending task relevant to a location where the new task is to be performed.

25. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said search unit searches a pending task relevant to a person related to the new task.

26. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said search unit searches a pending task to be performed subsequent to the new task.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising the steps of:

an addition step, of adding a new task to a schedule memory for storing a plurality of pending tasks;

a search step, of searching the schedule memory for a previously scheduled pending task relevant to the new task when said entry adder adds the new task; and

a notification step, of notifying ~~the~~ a user of the pending task relevant to the new task.

29. (Previously Presented) An information processing method according to Claim 28, wherein, in said search step, a search is performed for a pending task relevant to a location where the new task is to be performed.

30. (Previously Presented) An information processing method according to Claim 28, wherein, in said search step, a search is performed for a pending task relevant to a person related to the new task.

31. (Previously Presented) An information processing method according to Claim 28, wherein, in said search step, a search is performed for a pending task to be performed subsequent to the new task.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for controlling a computer, the program comprising codes for permitting the computer to perform the steps of:

an addition step, of adding a new task to a schedule memory for storing a plurality of pending tasks;

a search step, of searching the schedule memory for a previously scheduled pending task relevant to the new task when said entry adder adds the new task; and

a notification step, of notifying ~~the~~ a user of the pending task relevant to the new task.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 4, 2003. Claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 to 26 and 28 to 32 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 28 and 32, the independent claims herein, have been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 28 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,855,006 (Huemoeller), and Claims 24 to 26 and 29 to 31